

ADMINISTRATIVE INTERNAL USE ONLY

FBIS 1023-85

15 OCT 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Soviet Analysis

FROM:

[REDACTED]

Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service

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SUBJECT: SOVA Interest in Soviet Domestic Affairs Reporting

REFERENCE: Your Memo dtd 30 Sep 85, Same Subject

1. This is to acknowledge your interests in timely processing of Soviet media material. We are already in the process of providing guidelines to our field bureaus for handling material on the upcoming party congress, including the lower-level congresses, the new party program, and the five-year plan. We are also taking steps to enhance our capacity to publish the anticipated volume of material as speedily as possible.

2. It is our intention to continue timely processing of articles from Soviet journals on economic policy and related ideological issues, as you suggest. A principal purpose of establishing a Russian program at our bureau in Vienna--supplementing the work of our Press Monitoring Unit at London Bureau--was to provide current coverage of selected journals with an eye to publication in the Daily Report. As you note, it has yielded dividends in the past couple of years; we have been beset by personnel turnovers in Vienna but expect the program to be even more productive in the near future.

3. I am pleased to note the congruence between the analytical interests you cite and those of our own analysts. An ongoing dialogue between SOVA and FBIS Analysis Group will help serve our mutual interests. I have asked [REDACTED] chief of the Analysis Group, to meet with you or designated representatives to pursue these interests further. I also suggest that you have your analysts refer specific queries and requests to the FBIS Liaison and Requirements Branch, extension [REDACTED]

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DDS&T/FBIS, (9 Oct 85)

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30 September 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Foreign Broadcast Information Service

FROM: Director of Soviet Analysis

SUBJECT: Increased SOVA Interest in Soviet Domestic Affairs Reporting

As you are aware, SOVA is now making an increased effort to cover Soviet domestic politics and economic policies and we have considerably expanded our analytical capabilities in this area. As the media are one of our most valuable sources of information on this subject I thought it would be useful to give you a clearer picture of SOVA's needs for open source material.

1. In the months leading up to the February party congress we plan to be drawing heavily on Soviet media material for our analysis. We will be closely following personnel changes down to the obkom level, and following speeches of obkom and republic leaders at the party meetings leading up to the congress. In addition, we will be closely following the public discussion of the 12th Five Year Plan and the new party program. We plan a major effort to analyze as much of this material as possible before the CPSU congress, so speedy processing will greatly contribute to our work.

2. Looking to the congress and beyond, we plan to be closely following basic discussions of economic policy and related ideological issues. We believe that longer discussions of these issues that have been appearing in party and academic journals are a particularly productive source and will continue to depend on FBIS for timely processing of such material. We note that the Daily Report has been carrying more in-depth articles in recent years and believe this is an extremely valuable addition to FBIS coverage.

3. The increased importance of Soviet domestic affairs from an intelligence standpoint is likely to outlast the congress. Gorbachev appears to be encouraging open discussion of sensitive issues in the media and using the press to expose officials in his anticorruption campaign. We believe any effort by FBIS to

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SUBJECT: Increased SOVA Interest in Soviet Domestic
Affairs Reporting

expand current coverage of Soviet domestic affairs should be for
the long term.

4. We would be glad to get together to discuss our needs
more specifically.



Douglas J. MacEachin

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